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RWANDA

(C) AID Chief of Staff and 3 other USAID officers met with officials of the ex-FAR at Lac Vert Military Camp in Goma. General de Brigade Gratien Kabiligi, the number two in command of ex-FAR forces, was accompanied by five other Rwandans, introduced as "spokesmen for the refugees," but who are themselves ex-FAR officials. During the meeting the Rwandans insisted that the genocide was the fault of the RPA, stating that the RPA had started the war and was responsible for genocide against the Tutsis. General Kabiligi claimed that the refugees wanted to return to Rwanda, but only under conditions which guaranteed their security. Among the major conditions necessary to ensure security are elections and the formation of a national army split 60/40 between ex-FAR and RPA forces. The General maintained that reports of arms being smuggled to the ex-FAR are not true, and that his force was really "an army of refugees," rather than a fighting force. The General's ultimate disconnect with reality was his insistence that the U.S. was responsible for arming and training the RPA. If General Kabiligi's views are representative of the majority of the ex-FAR forces, it is evident that Rwanda is a long way from national reconciliation.

BURUNDI

(U) President Ntibantunganya, interviewed on national radio and television upon his return from the OAU Summit in Addis Ababa, supported the call for a summit meeting in Addis for Burundi's political and military leaders. Ntibantunganya dodged a reporter's question on whether CNDD leader Leonard Nyangoma would be invited.

(LOU) Although Bujumbura was generally calm today, local youths have set up makeshift barricades in many neighborhoods around the city. The barricades appear to be mainly for defensive purposes, and certainly serve to increase the overall tension level in a city already rife with rumors.

(U) July 1 is Burundi Independence Day. Planned events in Bujumbura include religious services, a wreath laying at Independence Square, and a parade from the square to the sports stadium. President Ntibantunganya will be in his native Gitega for July 1, but has invited the diplomatic community to a reception on July 2.

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